

MARVEL  
COMICS

X-MEN

SEPT '96 56

ONSLAUGHT

PHASE

2

HEROES REBORN  
UPDATE INSIDE!

MAGNETO  
AND ROGUE...

...UNLEASHED!



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"... AND AS I WATCHED, THE  
MARCHING SOLDIER... TOOL  
OF A TYRANT BENT ON WORLD  
DOMINATION... BROUGHT HIS  
CRUSHING BOOT DOWN  
WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST  
HESITANCY..."

"... IGNORING THE CRIES  
FOR MERCY OF THE  
INNOCENTS IN HIS PATH."



"BEEN THERE.  
GO ON..."





"WE HAD ONLY SECONDS TO ACT."



"WITH MY MAGNETIC POWERS, I HELD THE SENTINEL AT BAY —"

"... WHILE ROGUE SPED ITS VICTIMS TO WHAT SAFETY SHE COULD FIND."



"SHE KNEW THE DANGER I WAS IN. I —"

"... DID NOT."

MUTANT DESIGNATE MAGNETO  
CLASSIFICATION: OMEGA-LEVEL THREAT  
EXTREME SANCTION APPROVED

NOT BY ME.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:  
THE BEGINNING OF THE END

# TWILIGHT OF THE GODS

|                                               |                       |                        |                                |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SCOTT LOBDELL<br>PLOT                         | MARK WAID<br>DIALOGUE | ANDY NUBERT<br>PENCILS | ART THIBERT<br>INKS            |
| MICHAEL STARRINGS<br>AND COMICRAFT<br>LETTERS | JOE ADAMS<br>COLORS   | MALIBU<br>ENHANCEMENT  |                                |
|                                               |                       |                        | BOB HARRAS<br>EDITOR AND CHIEF |

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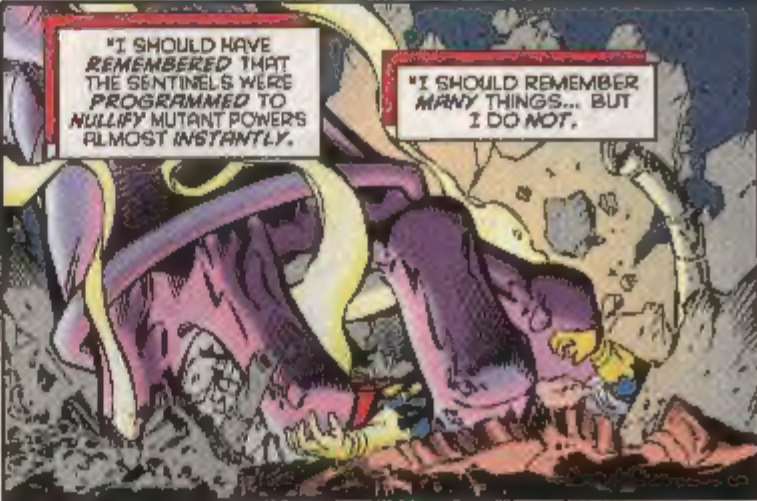




"I HAD BEEN  
WARNED, AFTER  
ALL."

HOLD  
NEGATED.

**FWAM**



"I SHOULD HAVE  
REMEMBERED THAT  
THE SENTINELS WERE  
PROGRAMMED TO  
NULLIFY MUTANT POWERS  
ALMOST INSTANTLY."

"I SHOULD REMEMBER  
MANY THINGS... BUT  
I DO NOT."



"I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT  
I WAS ONCE A TYRANT  
MYSELF... ONE WHO BATTLED  
THE X-MEN WITH A FEROCITY  
MATCHED ONLY BY THE  
GREAT BEAST **ONSLAUGHT**."

"THAT **ONSLAUGHT**... HE  
WHO WOULD DESTROY NEW  
YORK WITH HIS **SENTINEL  
BRIGADE**... WAS BORN OF  
MY MIND WHEN CHARLES  
XAVIER WIPED IT CLEAN."

REPEAT  
EXTREME  
SANCTION  
APPROVED.



"THAT **ONSLAUGHT**  
CARRIED MY EVIL..."

"...AND WOULD NOT  
HESITATE TO USE  
IT AGAINST ME."

PREPARE FOR  
TERMINATION.



ENGAGING  
LASERZZTTK

-- KZIEEEEE!

LEAVE  
HIM  
**ALONE!**

"DESPITE MY PAST TRANSGRESSIONS,  
HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL ONE WHO  
BELIEVES IN MY FUTURE."

"WHAT WE SHARE IS ENIGMATIC...  
EXCITING, YET NEW AND TENTATIVE..."

"... AND, AS I KNOW  
ALL TOO WELL..."







... FRAGILE.



"DESPITE HER  
STRENGTH,  
SHE COULD  
NOT HELP ME.



"WE WERE DEAD IN  
THE SENTINEL'S  
GISTS, WE WERE  
FINISHED."

"AND THEN...P"







"THERE WAS A  
CRACK OF  
LIGHTNING ...



"... A JARRING  
EXPLOSION ...



"... AND A VOICE MORE  
THUNDEROUS THAN  
EITHER."

SUCH A CRUDE  
INSTRUMENT.





A dramatic comic book illustration of Magneto standing amidst the ruins of a city. He is a large, imposing figure with a green cape and a metallic, segmented suit. His right hand is raised, palm facing forward, with a bright, starburst-like energy emanating from it. The background shows a city in flames, with smoke rising from the ruins of buildings. In the lower right corner, a group of people, including a man in a yellow and blue suit and a woman in a green and yellow suit, are looking up at him with expressions of awe and concern. The overall tone is one of epic scale and impending conflict.

STILL,  
WHO BUT I  
COULD CONSTRUCT  
A GAUNTLET CAPABLE  
OF DESTROYING A  
SENTINEL WITH  
SUCH UNCANNY  
PRECISION?

THERE  
IS MORE GENIUS  
IN THE PALM OF  
MY GLOVE THAN IN  
THE ENTIRE SCHEME  
OF ONSLAUGHT...  
AND THAT  
SHALL MARK HIS  
DOWNFALL.

RISE,  
MAGNETO.

DO  
NOT COWER,  
YOU SHAME  
YOURSELF.

HOW  
DARE TWO  
SUCH AS WE  
SUCCUMB TO THE  
TERROR THAT HAS  
SO PARALYZED  
OTHERS?

FEAR IS  
FOR LESSER  
MEN.



AH, BUT  
OF COURSE, I  
UNDERSTAND YOU  
ARE NO LONGER...  
YOURSELF, A  
PITY.

SO  
MUCH COULD WE  
HAVE CONQUERED  
TOGETHER... SO  
LITTLE COULD HAVE  
STOOD BEFORE  
US. ALAS...

"IN THAT MOMENT, OUR  
EYES MET... AND IN THEM,  
I SAW A REFLECTION THAT  
FROZE MY BLOOD.

"I DID NOT  
RECOGNIZE THIS  
MAN, BUT ROGUE  
CALLED HIM --"



DOOMP

YES.  
HOW DID  
YOU --?

FRANKLY,  
THE ENTRANCE  
LINE ALONE TOLD  
ME THAT MUCH. I'M  
NOT SURPRISED HE  
SOUGHT YOU  
OUT.

I'M ONLY  
SORRY I WASN'T  
THERE TO SAVOR HIS  
DISAPPOINTMENT WHEN  
HE SAW FOR HIMSELF  
HOW YOU HAD  
CHANGED.

BUT  
IF HE IS OUR  
ENEMY, WHY  
DOES HE NOW  
OFFER HIS  
AID?

LOOK  
AROUND YOU,  
JOSEPH. A CRISIS  
OF THIS MAGNITUDE  
MAKES FOR SOME  
RATHER UNEXPECTED  
ALLIANCES.

■  
WANTS TO  
HELP, ALL RIGHT.  
HE WANTS TO HELP  
HIMSELF BY MAKING  
SURE EARTH'S STILL  
AROUND TO CLAIM  
SOMEDAY. I  
KNOW HIM.

AS CAPTAIN AMERICA, I'VE  
LOCKED HORNS WITH DOOM  
MORE OFTEN THAN YOU  
CAN IMAGINE.

HE  
HAS, AT  
TIMES, BEEN  
MANKIND'S  
GREATEST  
FOE.



AS,  
APPARENTLY  
HAVE I.





IF  
THE EVIL OF MY  
FORMER LIFE DID  
INDEED GIVE BIRTH TO  
ONSLAUGHT...

...GIVE  
RISE TO THE  
CARNAGE AND  
DESTRUCTION AND  
DESPAIR THAT MAY  
YET END THE  
WORLD...

...THEN,  
CLEARLY, I  
HAVE MUCH  
TO ATONE  
FOR.

IN  
THE FIRST  
PLACE, THOUGH  
I'VE NEVER SEEN  
IT THIS GRIM,  
THE WORLD  
ENDS ONLY  
OVER MY DEAD  
BODY.

IN THE  
SECOND  
PLACE, YOU'RE  
DOING A GOOD  
JOB OF ENSURING  
THAT THERE ARE NO  
DEAD BODIES...  
AND I RESPECT  
THAT. YOU AREN'T  
THE MAGNETO  
I ONCE KNEW,  
JOSEPH.

BUT  
IF YOU STILL  
FEEL THE NEED TO  
CONFESS YOUR  
SINS...

...I'M  
NOT THE ONE  
YOU HAVE TO  
MAKE PEACE  
WITH...



CENTRAL  
PARK

HE IS  
**ONSLAUGHT**

AND AT THIS  
MOMENT

HE IS THE  
MIGHTIEST  
CREATURE  
ON EARTH.

THANKS TO THE RESISTANCE  
OF HIS FIRST CAPTIVE - THE  
REALITY-ALTERING FRANKLIN  
RICHARDS - ONSLAUGHT'S  
EYE-CHANGING BODY WAVERS  
IN MID-TRANSFORMATION

IT IS A PROBLEM  
HIS SECOND CAPTIVE  
MAY CORRECT...

OR RATHER,  
WHAT'S LEFT  
OF IT

ONLY HOURS AGO,  
IN A NOVA FLASH  
OF LIGHT, A VAST  
CITADEL SWALLOWED  
THE HEART OF  
MANHATTAN.

A CASTLE GUARDED  
BY A PSIONIC SHIELD  
THAT EARTH'S HEROES  
CANNOT YET BREACH.

WITHIN ITS WALLS  
LOOMS A CREATURE  
BORN OF ALL THE  
HATE AND ANGER  
BURIED IN THE SOUL  
OF MAGNETO...

AND GIVEN FORM  
BY THE FOOLISHNESS  
OF CHARLES XAVIER...  
WHO, IN ONE SECOND  
OF FOLLY, ACCIDENTALLY  
ALLOWED THAT ANGER  
INTO HIS OWN SOUL  
WHERE IT BLOSSOMED

THIS CHILD OF RAGE  
NOW EXISTS AS THE  
SYNTHESIS OF BOTH  
MEN... THEIR POWERS  
AND THEIR PASSIONS

I  
APPLAUD YOU,  
STRIPLING

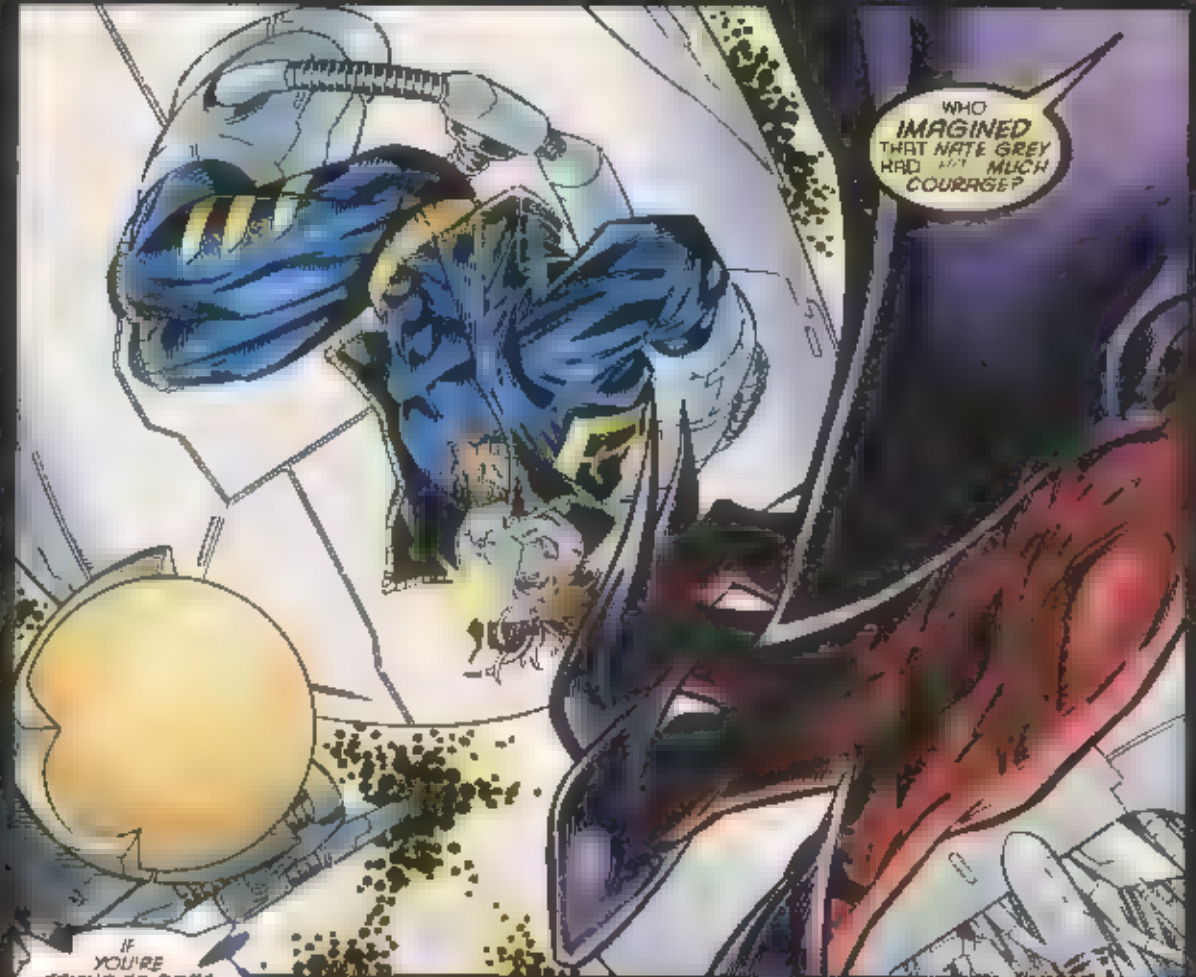
YOU HAVE  
RESISTED MY EVERY  
TORMENT...

MY EVERY  
TORTURE...

MY EVERY  
ATTEMPT TO ADD  
YOUR POWER TO  
MY OWN.







WHO  
IMAGINED  
THAT NATE GREY  
HAD <sup>ANY</sup> MUCH  
COURAGE?



IF  
YOU'RE  
TRYING TO BORE  
ME INTO SUBMISSION,  
THAT'S YOUR ONLY  
REAL  
SHOT.

YOU'VE  
ALREADY  
DONE YOUR WORST.  
I'VE BEATEN EVERYONE  
YOU'VE THROWN AT  
ME SO FAR.

YOU  
SHOULD  
HIRE BETTER  
HELP.



PLEASE.

DESPITE  
YOUR BRAVADO,  
YOU BROADCAST  
YOUR FEAR LIKE  
A WIFE.

STILL,  
PERHAPS YOU'RE  
RIGHT. HOLOCAUST  
POST HAVOK THEY  
AND THEIR LIKE ARE BUT  
**MINIONS. SERVILE**  
CREATURES  
WITHOUT MUCH  
CUNNING.



NEVERTHELESS

THEY  
HAVE SERVED  
THEIR  
PURPOSE.

THEY

BROUGHT

ME

YOU.

EVEN  
NOW, YOUR  
PSIONIC POWER  
**CHARGES**  
ME. MAKES ME  
STRONGER.

ONCE I TAP  
DIRECTLY INTO YOUR  
MIND AND LEARN YOUR  
**SECRETS,**  
THERE WILL BE NOTHING  
I CANNOT  
ACHIEVE.

I  
UNDERSTAND  
THAT YOU COME FROM A  
WORLD LORDED OVER BY  
**MUTANTS.**  
YOU WILL SHOW ME  
HOW THEY ACHIEVED  
DOMINANCE.

YOU  
SHOULD THANK ME  
FOR THE ROLE I HAVE  
GRANTED YOU,  
NATHAN.

MUTANTS  
HAVE LONG  
SUFFERED AT  
THE HANDS OF  
FEARFUL, PETTY  
HUMANS.

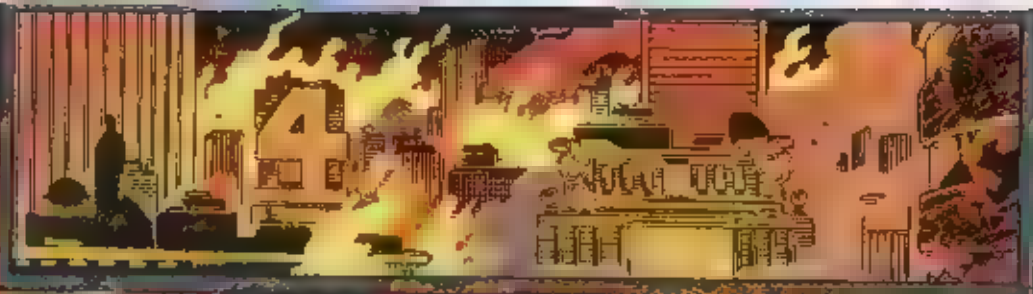
NOW  
THEY MUST  
**PAY**  
FOR THEIR  
CRIMES.

AFTER  
TODAY THE  
**HOMO SUPERIOR**  
RACE WILL ACHIEVE  
THEIR RIGHTFUL  
**SOVEREIGNTY**  
OVER THIS  
MUDBALL...

AND  
YOU AND  
YOUNG FRANKLIN  
WILL FOREVERMORE BE  
**REMEMBERED**  
AS THE AVATARS OF  
HUMANITY'S

**DESTRUCTION...**





I KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE  
THINKING

I'M  
SURPRISED  
I THOUGHT  
ONSLAUGHT  
REMOVED YOUR  
MENTAL  
POWERS

I  
DON'T NEED  
THEM TO READ  
YOU  
THIS  
ISN'T YOUR  
DOING

PROFESSOR  
XAVIER, THIS  
VENDETTA AGAINST  
HUMANITY... IT  
BEGAN WITH ME. I  
KNOW THIS  
NOW

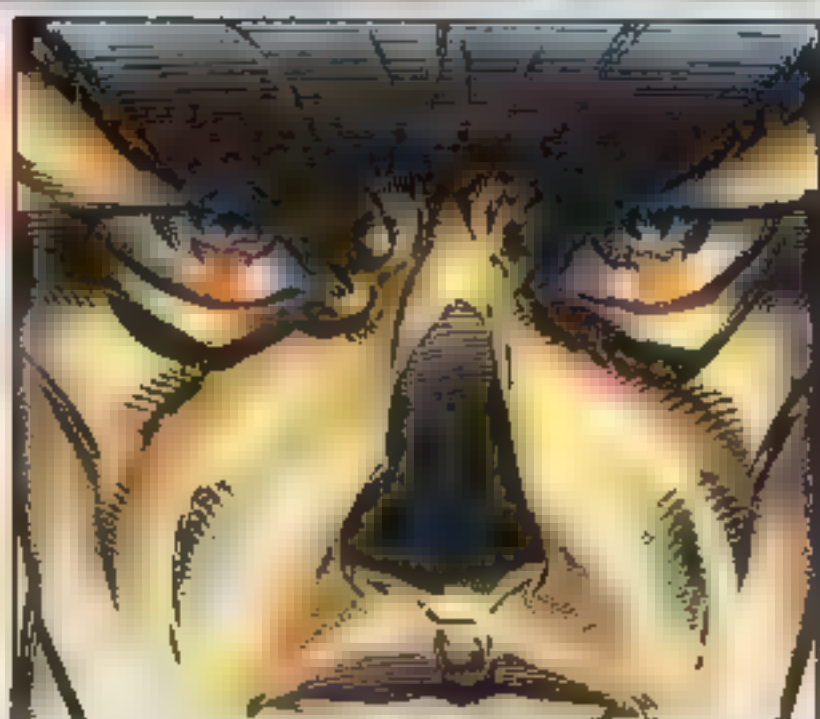
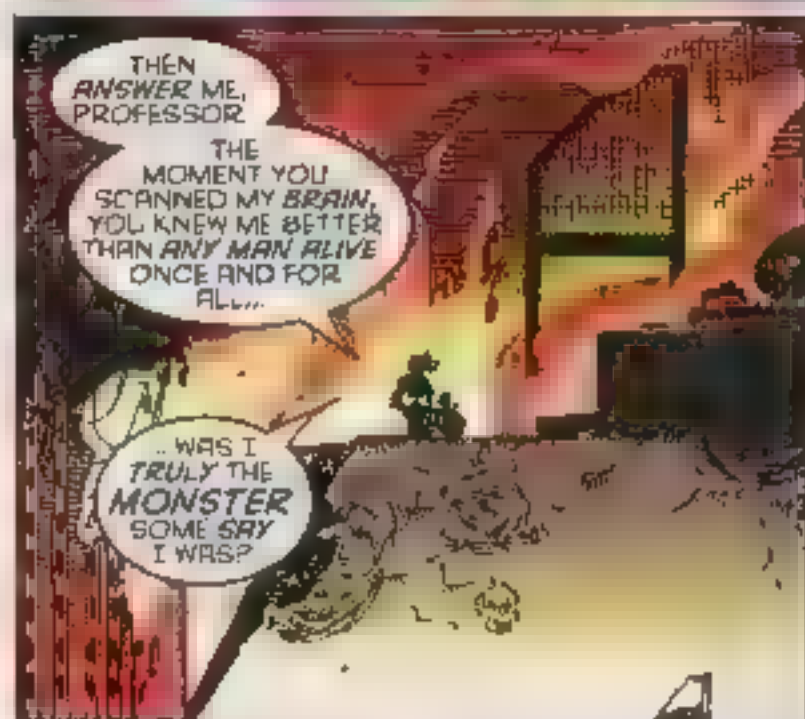
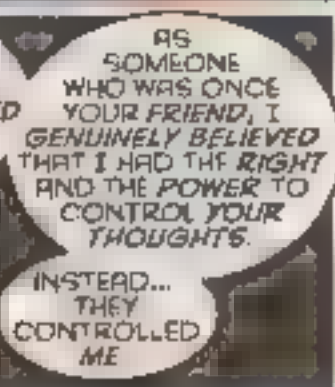
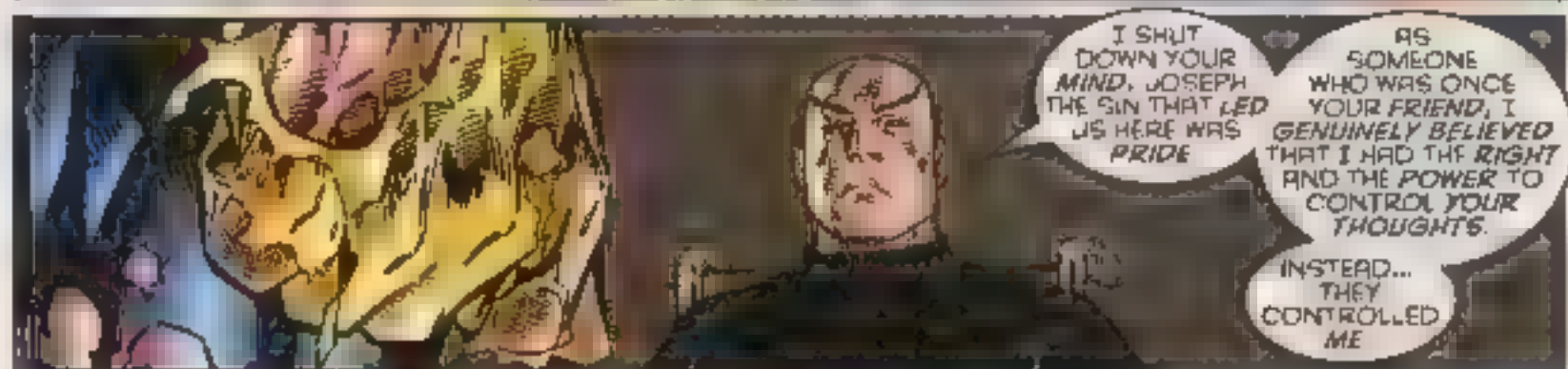
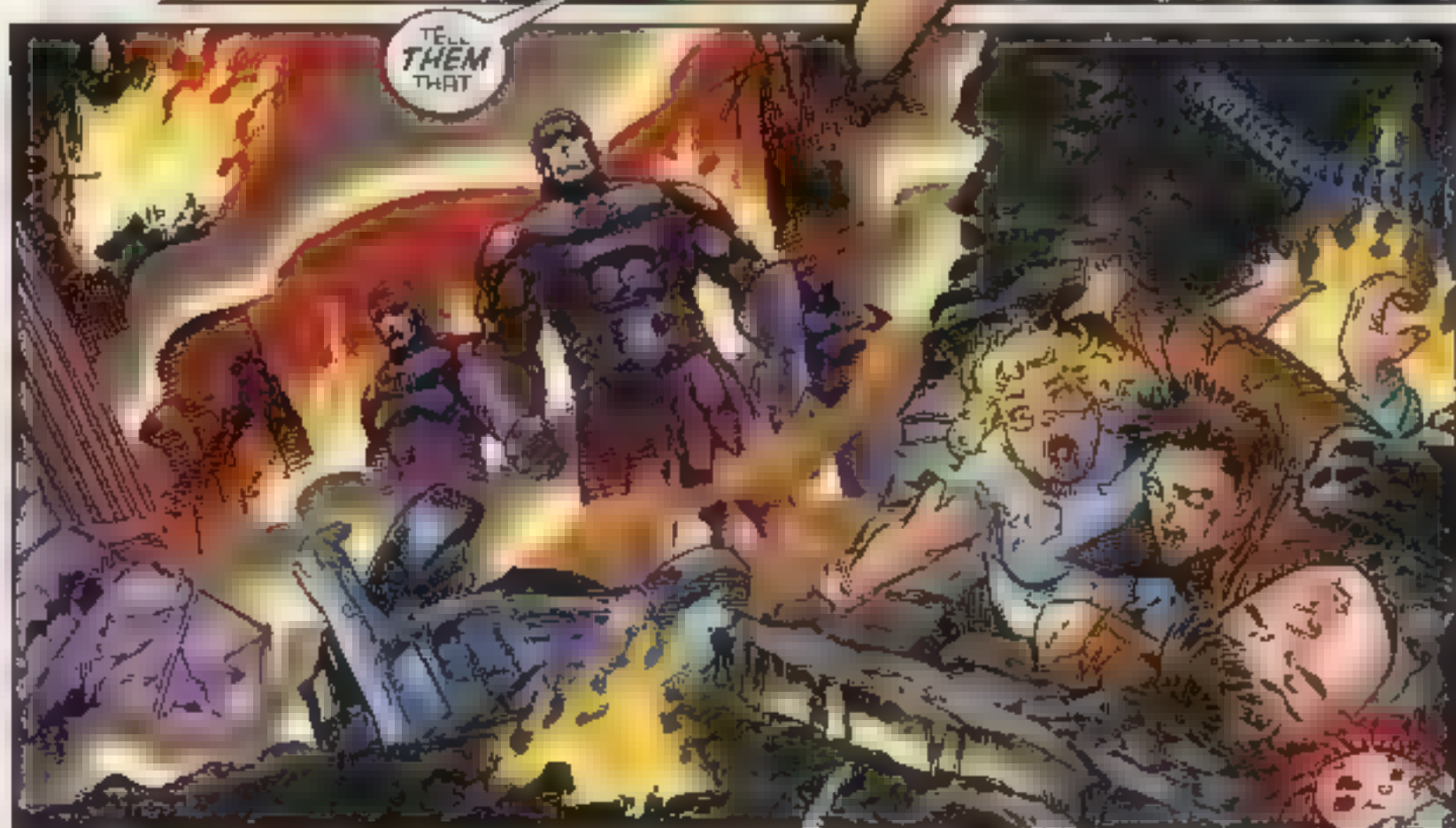
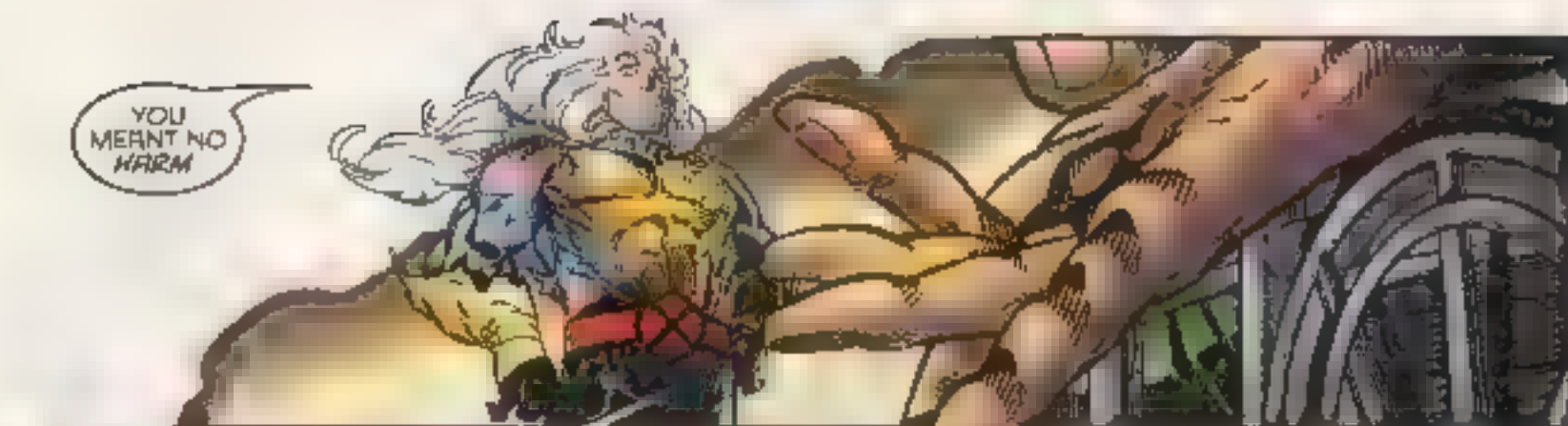
DESPITE  
HOW I MAY  
HAVE SINCE  
CHANGED...

HOW CAN  
I NOT BE HELD  
RESPONSIBLE FOR  
ONSLAUGHT'S  
RAMPAGE?

WHOSE SINS  
ARE GREATER,  
JOSEPH? YOURS  
FOR CULTIVATING  
HIS EVIL  
OR MINE...

FOR  
SETTING IT  
FREE?







YOU WERE A MAN OF GREAT STRENGTH AND GREAT WEAKNESS

AS A YOUTH, YOU SAW HOW THE WORLD TRIUMPHED OVER HERE KISHTS OF WAR IN GENOCIDE

MAN'S NULM IN TY T MIN ID ML T CLAM YOU

BUT I SCARRED YOU NONETHELESS

YOU WISHED TO PROTECT MILITANTS LIFE S I WISE I W M THIR E WHI WOULD PREY UPON THEM

IT WAS A NOBLE DREAM

I KNOW T WELL

IN TIME, HOWEVER, YOUR METHODS TURNED HARSH... FIERCE. THE ENDS BECAME MEANS TRYING THE MEANS YOUR WEAKNESS INALLY A TIME APPARENT

YOU HAD SUCCEUMBED TO THE ANGER

SO THATS WHY YOU WOULD T ME BEF WE WILL T EN AGAIN?

YOU'D SEE IN THE TIME COME S I RNCES UNFOLD

YOU TELL ME

GO BELOW JOSEPH

THE FINAL STRATEGY IS BEING PLANNED T I H W E S NEED YOU

YOU'LL FUSH WITH US?

NA MANNER OF SPEAKING, I HAVE DECIDED TO PLAY MY OWN

GO





INSLAUGHT'S  
CITADEL

MEMORIES ARE  
GOUGED FROM  
NATE GREY'S  
BRAIN VISIONS  
OF AN AGE OF  
APOCALYPSE

RECOLLECTIONS OF A  
WORLD NOT OURS, BUT  
HIS... AN ALTERNATE  
EARTH THAT WAS ONCE  
RULED BY MUTANTS

THAT WAS ONCE  
OVERRUN BY THEIR  
MIGHT AND THEIR  
AMBITION.

THAT ONCE  
EXISTED

BEFORE THEIR  
WARRING NATURE  
REDUCED IT TO  
DUST AND EMBERS





YOU  
HAD THE  
WORLD  
IN YOUR  
HANDS --

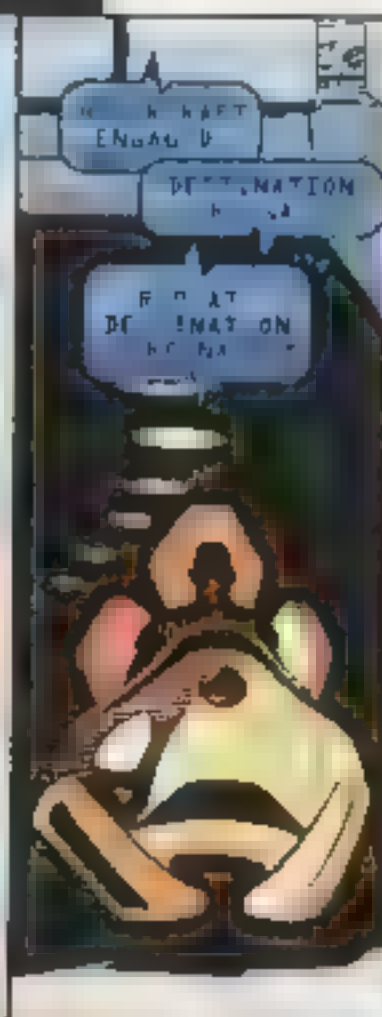
AND YOU  
THREW IT ALL  
AWAY?

YOUR  
PEOPLE WERE  
HOMO SUPERIOR!  
THEY WERE SUPPOSED  
TO HAVE DESERVED  
THEIR  
KINGDOM --

- NOT  
TO HAVE  
DESTROYED  
IT!

COME WITH  
ME, NATHAN. YOU  
HAVE GIVEN ME  
SOMETHING NEW  
TO CONSIDER.  
  
WE HAVE MUCH  
TO ACCOMPLISH...  
TOGETHER





DOWN  
OPENING

LEFT  
END

DESTINATION

DESTINATION

DESTINATION

DISABLE  
AUTOPILOT  
DELETE  
TRANSIT  
RECORDS

THAT  
S ALL

NOW THAT IRON MAN'S  
TEAM HAS COMPLETED  
CONSTRUCTION ON THE  
PSI-ARMOR WE NEED,  
WE STAND A FIGHTING  
CHANCE AGAINST  
ONSLAUGHT'S  
POWERS.

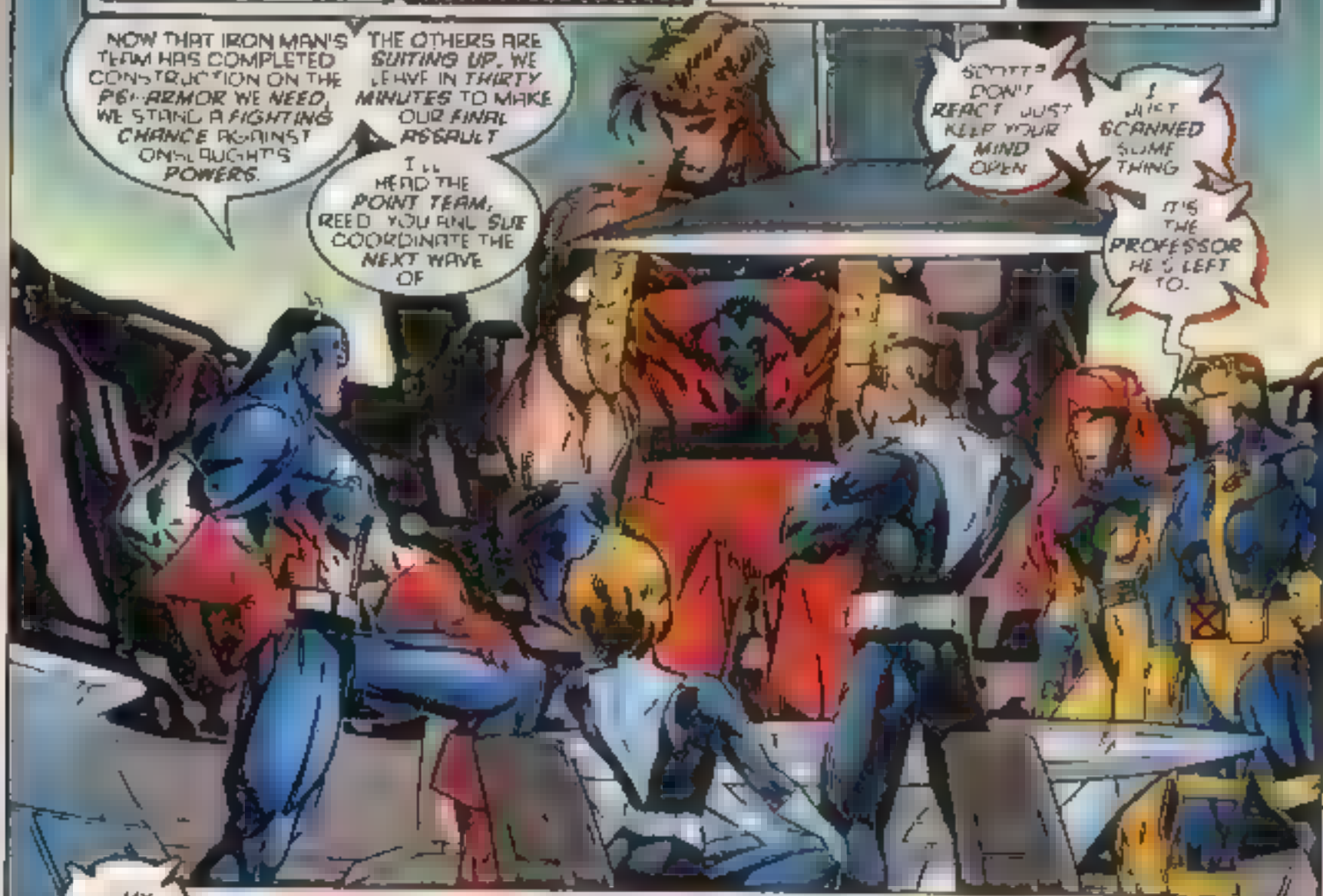
THE OTHERS ARE  
SUITS UP. WE  
LEAVE IN THIRTY  
MINUTES TO MAKE  
OUR FINAL  
ASSAULT

I'LL  
HEAD THE  
POINT TEAM,  
REED YOU AND SUE  
COORDINATE THE  
NEXT WAVE  
OF

SCOTT  
DON'T  
REACT JUST  
KEEP YOUR  
MIND  
OPEN

I  
JUST  
SCANNED  
SOME  
THING

IT'S  
THE  
PROFESSOR  
HE'S LEFT  
TO.



MY  
GOD

TO  
CONFRONT  
ONSLAUGHT  
ON HIS  
OWN

ALONE

BLAST IT!  
PROFESSOR

ALL  
RIGHT,  
JEAN

SEND  
OUT A  
TELEPATHIC  
SIGNAL ONLY  
THE REST OF  
THE X-MEN  
IN  
SECRET

WHAT  
EVER  
HAPPENS  
HE WON'T  
BE  
ALONE





INSIDE ONSLAUGHT'S  
CITADEL.

INSIDE  
ONSLAUGHT.

YOUR  
POWER IS  
MINE, NATE  
GREY.

AND  
NOW...







AT LAST  
I KNOW MY  
DESTINY. THE  
STAGE IS  
SET.

THE  
PLAYERS ARE IN  
POSITION.



AND  
THE END IS  
NEAR...



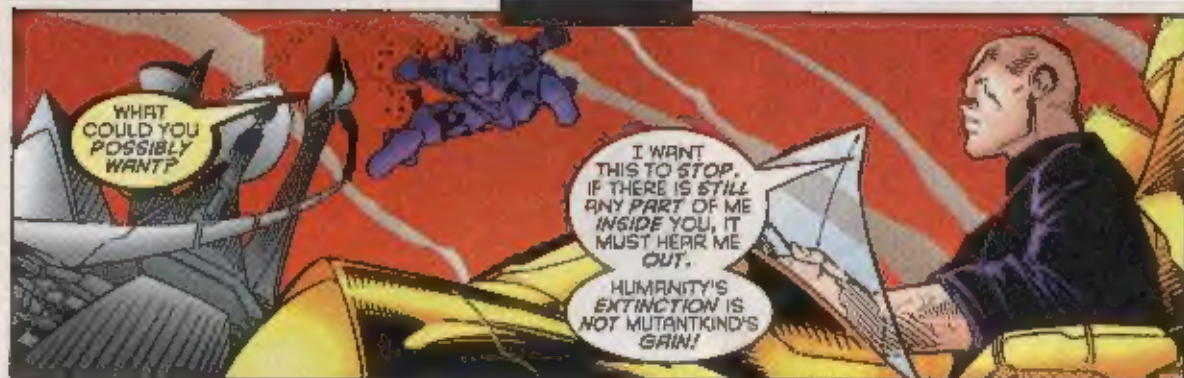
... FOR  
SOME...



... SOONER  
THAN  
OTHERS.

I  
SENSE YOUR  
PRESENCE,  
CHARLES  
XAVIER.





WHAT  
COULD YOU  
POSSIBLY  
WANT?

I WANT  
THIS TO STOP.  
IF THERE IS STILL  
ANY PART OF ME  
INSIDE YOU, IT  
MUST HEAR ME  
OUT.

HUMANITY'S  
EXTINCTION IS  
NOT MUTANTKIND'S  
GAIN!



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY  
RIGHT.



THEN  
YOUR VENDETTA  
HAS NO  
PURPOSE!

NONE!  
LISTEN  
TO ME --



WHY?  
WHAT UGLY  
TRUTH CAN YOU  
TELL ME THAT I  
DO NOT NOW  
KNOW?

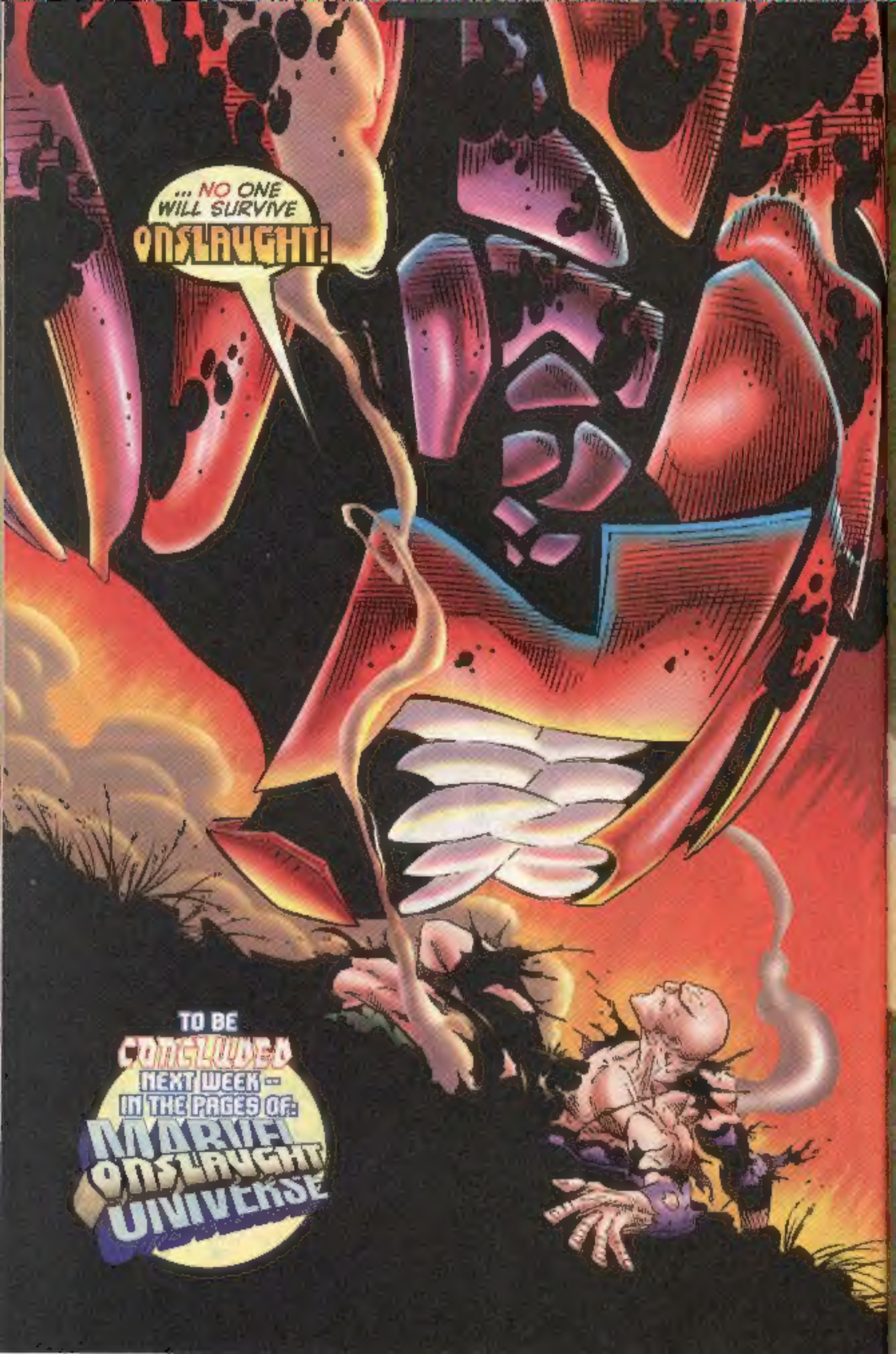
THE  
MUTANTS  
WE CHAMPIONED,  
XAVIER, ARE EVERY  
BIT AS PETTY AND  
VENAL AS  
HUMANS!

NEITHER  
RACE CAN  
RULE THE WORLD  
WITHOUT BRINGING  
IT TO RUIN!

MY FINAL  
DECLARATION  
IS THIS!

HUMAN OR  
MUTANT...





... NO ONE  
WILL SURVIVE  
**ONSLAUGHT!**

TO BE  
**CONCLUDED**  
NEXT WEEK --  
IN THE PAGES OF:  
**MARVEL**  
**ONSLAUGHT**  
**UNIVERSE**